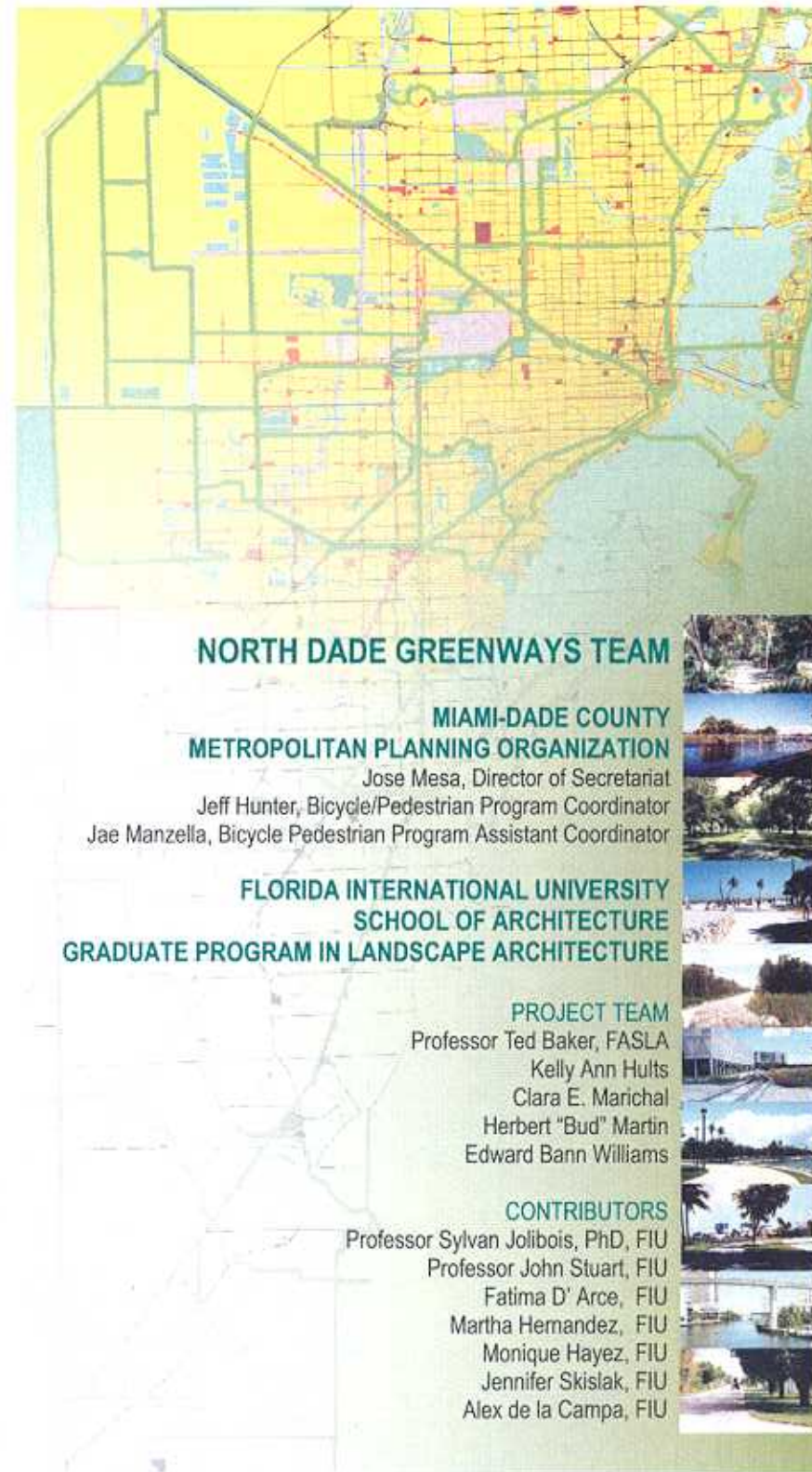


VISION STATEMENT

The North Dade Greenways project proposes non-motorized transportation corridors within the 390 square mile study area, defined by North Kendall Drive, Krome Avenue, Biscayne Bay and the Atlantic Ocean, and the Dade-Broward line. These trails will serve employment and retail centers, schools and universities, and recreational areas within the region. Twenty-four greenways are proposed, occupying railroad, canal, and utility easements, and road rights-of-way.

A two-step search to identify opportunities first involved solicitation of public input in three community charette workshops that were noticed through extensive mailings and advertisements in local newspapers. Assessment of this public input followed, and two subsequent review workshops refined public concerns and desires for the greenways system. The data generated from governmental and private entities has resulted in the North Dade Greenways Master Plan. This plan recommends the development of over 308 linear miles of corridors, providing a network of paths, lanes, and unpaved trails for bicyclists and pedestrians, while enhancing ecological connectivity and landscape aesthetics.

Increased tourism, enhanced community alliances, and the well-being of residents all carry significant financial benefit. A restored environment offers the challenge of ecological connectivity as the basis for a sustainable Dade County in which species diversity is enhanced by the successful movement of energy and species across the landscape. This network of greenways will provide utilitarian and recreational transportation modes for humans, and foraging and shelter for animals.



NORTH DADE GREENWAYS TEAM

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE GRADUATE PROGRAM IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

PROJECT TEAM

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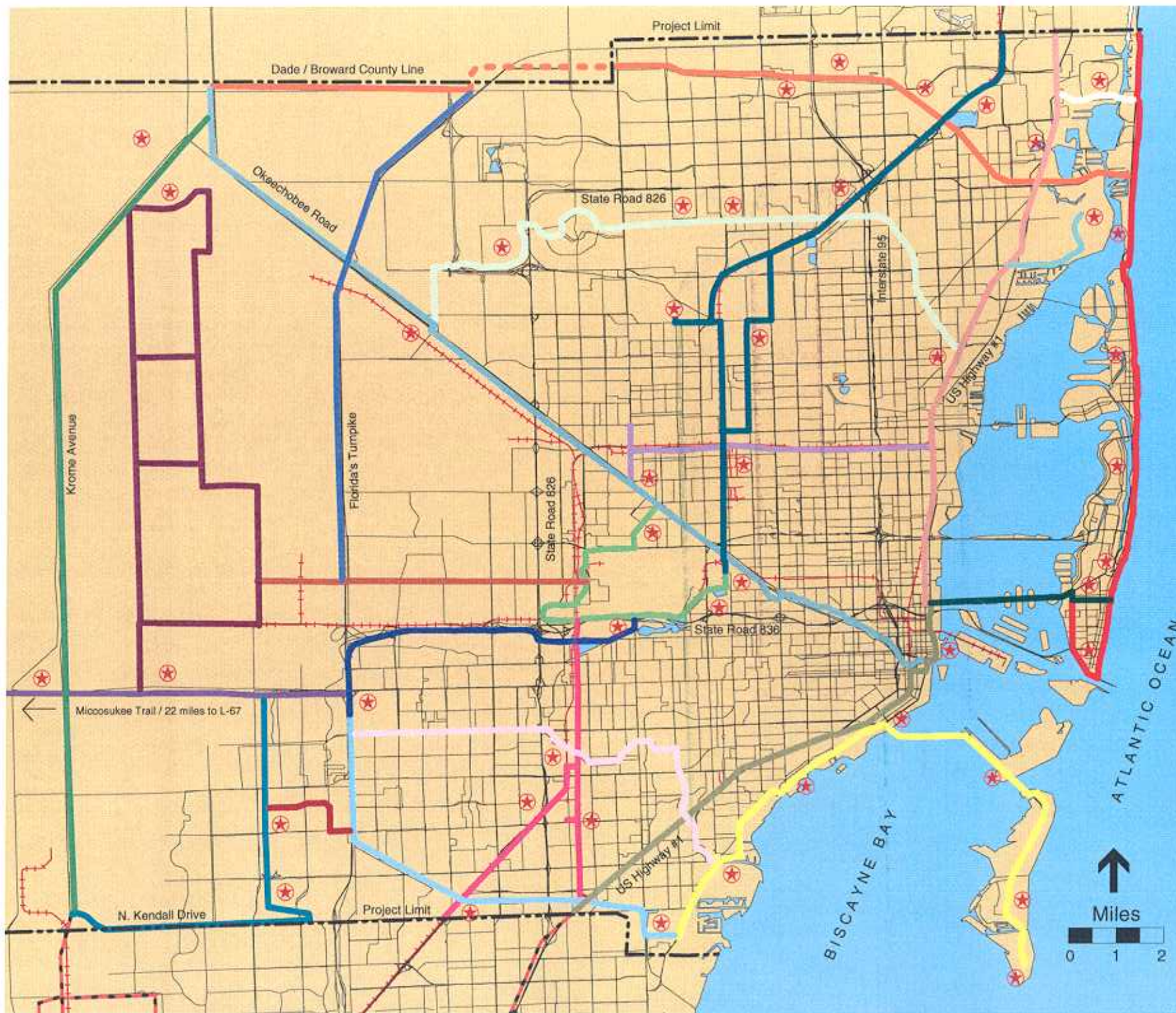
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NORTH DADE GREEN WAYS


EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

December 1997



LEGEND

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Atlantic Trail | Miami River Trail |
| Beacon Trail | Miccosukee Link |
| Commodore Trail | Miller Link |
| East-West Trail | Oleta Link |
| Flagler Trail | Perimeter Trail |
| Gold Coast Trail | Snake Creek Trail |
| Krome Trail | Snapper Creek Trail |
| Lake Belt Trail | South Dade Greenway Network |
| Lehman Link | Trailheads |
| Ludlam Trail | Tumpike Trail |
| M Path Trail | Unity Trail |
| Memorial Trail | Venetian Link |
| Merrick Trail | West Kendall Trail |




The Miccosukee Trail connects the University Park campus of Florida International University with the Miccosukee Indian Reservation and Everglades National Park to the west. An existing facility along the north side of Tamiami Trail in the City of Sweetwater, terminates north of University Park near the Florida Turnpike junction. The Master Plan proposes the extension of the East-West Trail and the Snapper Creek Trail at the University, linking to the Krome Trail and the existing levee trails west of Krome Avenue.

MILLER LINK **2.5 miles**


The Miller Link proposes a westward extension of the existing facility along Miller Drive. This link provides a connection of the Snapper Creek Trail to the West-Kendall Trail. The quadrant formed by Bird Road, Southwest 127th Avenue, Kendall Drive, and the Homestead Extension of Florida's Turnpike is commonly referred as "Horse Country". To serve this user group, the Miller Link includes an equestrian trail parallel to the paved bicycle and pedestrian path.

M-PATH TRAIL **9.9 miles**




The enhancement of this existing South Dixie Highway facility provides an uninterrupted connection along its ten-mile length. By linking those segments not constructed concurrent with the Metrorail system with existing segments, this urban greenway will provide a non-motorized corridor from Downtown Miami to the Dadeland South Metrorail station. The M-Path Trail will connect to the South Dade Trail of the South Dade Greenway Network. Opportunities for the completion of undeveloped segments can be found in parallel road rights-of-way, such as Ponce de Leon Boulevard.

OLETA LINK **2.5 miles**



The Oleta Link along Northeast 135th Street offers the opportunity to connect the proposed Flagler Trail with the Oleta River State Recreational Area and the North Campus of Florida International University. Occupying the FEC Railroad easement in the vicinity of the remnant hammocks that remain in both Enchanted Forest Park and Arch Creek Park, the Flagler Trail has an invaluable ecological focus, and provides habitat for many birds, fish, and small animals. As a greenway offering both a recreational component for human use while functioning as an ecological corridor, the Oleta Link connects the valuable native vegetation patches adjacent to the Flagler Trail with those in the Oleta River State Recreational Area.


The Krome Trail creates a continuous connection along the easement of Krome Avenue. This trail will provide a north-south corridor along the western edge of Dade County, within one of the most environmentally sensitive areas of the region. As a buffer between urban development and the Pennsuko Wetlands, the development of the Krome Trail must include the removal and control of invasive species, reforestation of select upland areas, and the reintroduction of native wetland species.



PERIMETER TRAIL **9 miles**


Due to its central location and loop design, the Perimeter Trail is a nodal point within the North Dade Greenways. It serves as a central hub from which several other trails radiate. By occupying designated road and railroad rights-of-way, this trail will provide a recreational and utilitarian non-motorized corridor for airport employees and local residents alike. Its eastern terminus is located at the Miami Intermodal Center (MIC) site, a planned transportation hub that will facilitate connections to future mass transit systems. It is anticipated that the MIC will also relieve congestion at the Miami International Airport by efficient organization and management of landside operations.

SNAKE CREEK TRAIL **18.6 miles**



The Snake Creek Trail will enhance and extend the existing bicycle and pedestrian paths along the Snake Creek Canal, creating a link between the northeast Atlantic Trail and the Krome Trail to the northwest. Whether a paved asphalt path in urban northeast Dade or a gravel off-road trail in the undeveloped areas of northwest Dade, the Snake Creek Trail creates a continuous route along the Dade County / Broward County line. Enhanced reforestation along its broad right-of-way will ameliorate the scenic value of the greenway, and will provide valuable habitat for a range of endemic species.


SNAPPER CREEK **10.5 miles**



Proposals for the Snapper Creek Trail include the enhancement of the existing paths west of Southwest 107th Avenue, and their extension east toward Matheson Hammock Park. Approximately 6.5 miles in length, the existing facility will be enhanced by an easterly extension that will create a continuous ten-mile route to paths on Red Road and Old Cutler Road. Located in a predominantly residential area, the Snapper Creek Trail will provide connections to approximately nine public schools and nine public parks.


The Turnpike Trail proposes the development of a non-motorized transportation route along the west easement of Florida's Turnpike. This opportunity creates a link between the Snake Creek Trail at the Dade County / Broward County Line south to the proposed Beacon Trail west of the Miami International Airport. Located adjacent to certain ecologically sensitive areas, and paralleling Florida's Turnpike, this greenway will serve as a buffer zone from the urban sprawl that is endangering the fragile wetlands to the west.

UNITY TRAIL **7.5 miles**




As a "rails-with-trails" facility, the Unity Trail occupies the FEC Railroad easement paralleling West 21st Street in Hialeah and Northwest 79th Avenue in unincorporated Miami-Dade County. Serving as a link between the Miami River Trail, Gold Coast Trail, and Flagler Trail, the Unity Trail will utilize existing facilities, such as the catwalk at its intersection with the Miami River Trail. This trail will unite culturally diverse areas such as Hialeah, Northside, Northwest Highland, Model Cities, and Partners. From Hialeah to northeast Miami, Unity Trail provides a transportation corridor for students from more than 22 public schools.

VENETIAN LINK **4.1 miles**



The Venetian Link will connect the Flagler Trail and the Atlantic Trail. The reconstruction of bridges will result in a dedicated facility along the entire length of the Venetian Causeway. This facility will provide access to the island of Miami Beach from the Flagler Trail. A connection between the existing bicycle and pedestrian facility on Dade Boulevard and the pedestrian mall on Lincoln Road will provide access to the Atlantic Trail to the east, along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline.

WEST KENDALL TRAIL **16.8 miles**



Primarily within the Kendale Lakes residential area, the West Kendall Trail will be located within designated road easements and will connect to an existing facility in the vicinity of the Kendale Lakes Golf Course. As a link between the Snapper Creek Trail and the Krome Trail, the West Kendall Trail is a vital component within the only agriculturally zoned land of the study area. Commonly referred as "Horse Country", this area provides ample open space to accommodate horse riders. This trail's link along Kendall Drive would provide connectivity to the South Dade Greenway Network by linking to the "Krome Trail" along Kendall Drive and Krome Avenue.



ATLANTIC TRAIL 16.8 miles

The Atlantic Trail provides a non-motorized multi-use path along the Atlantic shoreline. Wherever possible, this proposed trail will occupy the easement west of the existing sand dunes, reaching from the county line at the north to the southern reach of Miami Beach. The Atlantic Trail will establish linkages with existing paths and boardwalks along the Atlantic shore, including those in Haulover Park, the North Shore Recreational Area, Miami Beach Drive, and Lummus Park.



BEACON TRAIL 6.9 miles

The Beacon Trail will occupy the canal easement located on the north side of Northwest 25th Street. Situated in a rapidly expanding area of commercial and residential, this trail will establish a non-motorized corridor link from the highly developed areas east of Florida's Turnpike to the future Lake Belt Recreation Area west of the Turnpike.



COMMODORE TRAIL 15.1 miles

An improvement to existing segmented bicycle and pedestrian facilities, this trail will serve Key Biscayne, Coconut Grove, and South Miami, and will connect to the *South Dade Greenway Network*. By enhancing the existing off-road path on Old Cutler Road, and extending its corridor to the existing paths on the Rickenbacker Causeway, trail users will access a variety of commercial and recreational attractors along its route.



EAST-WEST TRAIL 7.9 miles

A non-motorized transportation corridor, the East-West Trail will provide access from the University Park Campus of Florida International University to the Blue Lagoon area south of the Miami International Airport. This trail facility will occupy the ground level right-of-way along several segments of the proposed east-west rail line, currently being studied by the Florida Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.



FLAGLER TRAIL 14.9 miles

This trail will be developed within the Florida East Coast Railroad (FEC) easement that parallels US Highway #1, between the county line at the north and downtown Miami at the south. The conversion of this easement to recreational corridor use has already been recommended in Dade County's *Railroad Right-of-Way Assessment* (August 1993). With its one hundred foot right-of-way, this trail will occupy both the east and west sides of the rail line, providing a multi-use facility with minimal interference from adjacent conflicting uses.



GOLD COAST TRAIL 20.8 miles

A continuous bicycle and pedestrian facility, this trail will extend from the north county line southward, to the future Miami Intermodal Center east of the Miami International Airport. The Gold Coast Trail will utilize the South Florida Rail Corridor, a former CSX Transportation property currently in use by TriRail. The integration of a non-motorized component within this corridor will facilitate links among an array of utilitarian and recreational users, with industrial and commercial centers, and parks and schools connected by the corridor.



LAKE BELT TRAIL 29.3 miles

The *Northwest Dade County Freshwater Lake Belt Plan* -- currently under development by environmental, governmental, and private interest representatives -- seeks an appropriate balance between the needs of the rock mining industry and environmental protection and preservation of the area. The Lake Belt Trail seeks to offer a viable recreational component embracing extensive and varied bicycle and pedestrian opportunities that access a variety of features within the Lake Belt area.



LEHMAN LINK 1.8 miles

An east-west connector between the Flagler Trail and the Atlantic Trail, the Lehman link offers an alternate travel opportunity for residents of Aventura, North Miami Beach, Golden Shores, and Golden Beach. Proposed for development within the road easement of the Lehman Causeway, this trail will connect to the off-road path at the perimeter of the Turnberry Isle Golf Course.



LUDLAM TRAIL 10.9 miles

As a north-south greenway within the Florida East Coast (FEC) rail easement, this trail parallels Ludlam Road (Southwest 67 Ave) within the South Miami / East Kendall area. Serving a variety of schools, parks, and shopping hubs -including Dadeland Mall and Dadeland Station- this trail will establish links to several east-west trails, among which are the Perimeter Trail, the Merrick Trail, the East-West Trail, the Snapper Creek Trail, and the M-Path Trail.



MEMORIAL TRAIL 16 miles

A combined on-road / off-road bicycle and pedestrian facility, the Memorial Trail will occupy select local and collector roads in Hialeah Gardens, Miami Lakes and North Miami, and the easement of the Biscayne Canal in Opa Locka and North Miami. In addition to providing connections among existing paths in Miami Lakes and Miami Shores, this trail will offer non-motorized links to the Opa Locka Airport, Florida Memorial College, St. Thomas University, and Barry University.



MERRICK TRAIL 10.4 miles

Functioning as an east-west trail linking Coconut Grove, South Miami, and portions of Coral Gables with west-central Dade County, this corridor follows existing bike routes on Riviera Drive and Granada Drive in Coral Gables. The *North Dade Greenways* master plan proposes the enhancement of the existing facilities on these streets by creating dedicated bike lanes.



MIAMI RIVER TRAIL 20.9 miles

This trail will create a continuous multi-use path within the corridor of the Miami River and the rights-of-way of designated local roads, from the Urban Development Boundary in west Dade County to downtown Miami. The Miami River Trail will provide connections among the cities of Hialeah, Hialeah Gardens, Medley, Miami Springs, and Miami.